



# Learning for life!

## Meridian Update

### Term 5

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

### Term 6

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July**  
**INSET DAYS on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July**

[www.meridianschool.co.uk](http://www.meridianschool.co.uk)



**Meridian Community Primary School & Nursery**



**@MeridianCPS**

**Friday  
25<sup>th</sup>  
May  
2017**

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Parent Council**

We had a really positive Parent Council meeting today where we discussed our usual agenda items as well as feedback from parents. I thought I would share some of the questions and answers:

*Why has the school chosen to have 2 INSET days in July and 2 INSET days in September as this lengthens the summer holidays?*

The INSET days for July were planned when the new building was still due to go ahead to support staff in moving furniture, equipment etc. and setting up new classrooms ready for September. These dates were set and County informed so it would be difficult to re-arrange. We will be using these days for planning exciting topics for September and Curriculum Teams will be auditing resources for their subjects. With regards to September, the first INSET day is set by East Sussex for all schools. We have set an additional day because there is always so much to get through prior to the children starting, including staff refresher training on Safeguarding.

*Will there be a new football club starting?*

Unfortunately, Tom Miles, the Sports Coach that worked with Meridian, was not well enough to continue delivering P.E. lessons and football club – we wish him all the best. We are currently using a new sports provider and I am meeting with them next term to discuss P.E. lessons and after school clubs, including football club. This means that at the moment there will not be a football club after school, however we will make sure that there is one in the very near future.

If you have any questions you would like asked at our next Parent Council Meeting, please do speak with one of our Parent Council representatives. Their details are on our website.

### **Forest School**

The Reception and Year 4 children really enjoyed their first session of Forest school – it was so lovely to see them having fun in the garden area and learning outdoors. Thank you to Yolandi Taylor and her YMCA Dialogue team for this fantastic opportunity.

Have a lovely break – fingers crossed for more sunny weather!

Best wishes

C. Westcott

Claire Westcott  
(Headteacher)



### TERM DATES

#### Term 5

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

(Bank Holiday – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May)

**INSET DAY on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May – school closed for staff training.**

#### May break

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

#### Term 6

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July

**INSET DAYS on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July and Friday**

**21<sup>st</sup> July – school closed for staff training**

#### Term 1

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October

**INSET days on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September – school closed for staff training. Children back to school on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

### Important Dates

- 26.05 School closed for staff training  
16.06 Year 1 Assembly to Parents @9am  
19.06 Year 6 Residential all week  
22.06 Parent Coffee Morning @9am  
23.06 Reception Assembly to Parents @9am  
28.06 Reception/KS1 Sports Afternoon @1.30pm  
29.06 KS2 Sports Afternoon @ 1.30pm  
30.06 Year 3 Assembly to Parents @9am  
07.07 Year 2 Assembly to Parents @9am  
Curriculum Open Afternoon from 1.45pm  
10.07 Healthy Living Week  
14.07 Year 4 Assembly to Parents @9am  
18.07 Year 6 Production to whole school and parents with babies/toddlers @9am  
Year 6 Production to Parents @6pm  
20.07 School closed for staff training  
21.07 School closed for staff training  
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04.09 School closed for staff training  
05.09 School closed for staff training  
06.09 Children back to school

### No Dogs Please

Having met with EMCOR recently, I have found out about their policy with regards to having dogs on the school site.

Their policy is that **no dogs are to come onto the school site**, including those that are being carried by their owners.

I apologise for any confusion about this as I understood that it was ok to carry dogs – but I was wrong.

So please can you leave all dogs (big and small) outside the school grounds.

Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.



### Changes at Meridian

Due to the cancellation of the new build and the school funding implications, a consultation has been launched for all staff. The contents of this consultation document is confidential, however I wanted to inform parents that there are changes ahead in respect of levels of staffing and roles and responsibilities. I would like to reassure parents that the Governing Body and I are committed to ensuring the best possible education for the children. I will inform parents about any changes in due course. Thank you for your continued support.

### Year 5 Assembly

Well done to Year 5 for a FABULOUS assembly today – I was incredibly proud of everyone's performance. I've been humming "Eye of the Tiger" and "Happy" all day!

Looking forward to Year 1 Assembly on 16<sup>th</sup> June!

### Active Kids vouchers

We are collecting Active Kids vouchers from Sainsbury's again this year. It is great way for us to get free equipment and resources for school. So please do send these in if you shop in Sainsbury's – you could also get friends and family to collect them too!



### School Photographs

Don't forget to send back your school photograph order forms by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June as we will be sending them off to the photography company on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June. Thank you!

### What to do if your child is absent

If your child is going to be absent, please can you inform the school office as soon as possible? You are able to leave a message on the school voicemail service. If we do not hear from you, it is an expectation that the office staff will call you. If we do not hear from and cannot contact you, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

### Attendance

Excellent attendance at school is so important so that children do not miss the vital teaching and learning that takes place every day in class and do not fall behind. Our school target is 96% this year but unfortunately we are not on track to achieve this due to some poor attendance by some families. Our current percentage is only 93.7%, which is significantly below the national average. We are currently working the Education Behaviour and Attendance Service to see what additional strategies and support we can put in place to improve our attendance.

### EVERY LESSON COUNTS!

Each week we celebrate the class with the best attendance and they earn coins for their treasure chest on the class behaviour board. Well done to the following classes so far this term:

- Week 1: 2MD (Mermaid Class) 98.9%
- Week 2: 4P (Clownfish Class) 95.8%
- Week 3: 4P (Clownfish Class) 98.3%
- Week 4: 4P (Clownfish Class) 99%
- Week 5: 1A (Starfish Class) 97.4%

**If you would like support with any attendance worries you may have, do make appointment with either Ms Maslen (Assistant Headteacher) or Mrs Skipplings (Learning Mentor)**

### School Nurse Drop Ins

Our school nurse (Sam) is available every Tuesday morning from 8.45am for parents to drop in and chat with her about any concerns you might have about your child. Please come to the school office to sign in and Sam will meet with you. This wonderful service is no longer provided free of charge and is something that school has purchased to support parents, so please do come along and meet with her if you have any worries at all.

She is really lovely and be able to offer health support, advice or signpost you to services you can access.



### Polling Station

The school will be used again as a Polling Station on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June for the General Election.

If you have not ordered a packed lunch from the kitchen, it is too late to do so now. So please can you provide your child with their own packed lunch on this day.

Thank you for your support with this matter

### A message from our Chair of Governors

During the last term the Governing Body has continued to fulfil its monitoring role focussing on the new Nursery provision, safeguarding and pupil attendance and achievements.

We have been delighted to see how hard the staff are working with pupils to ensure they make the most of the opportunities at Meridian School and Nursery. We are fully supportive of the drive to ensure that attendance is improved across the school so that all pupils access their education.

At this time of the year we have the task of approving the budget for the forthcoming year as well as looking at the forecast for the next few years. We commend the professional team at the school who have prepared the detailed information enabling us to make these all important decisions.

Further information about the Governors can be found on the school web site including a list of the Governing Body.

Janet Anthony  
Chair of Meridian Governing Body



### Nursery

The Nursery have been enjoying learning about Patterns and Pirates this week!

